



END THE SQUASH KIBOSH

NOTHING SAYS HEARTY LIKE A SQUASH AND SWEDISH MEATBALL STROGANOFF PAGESS

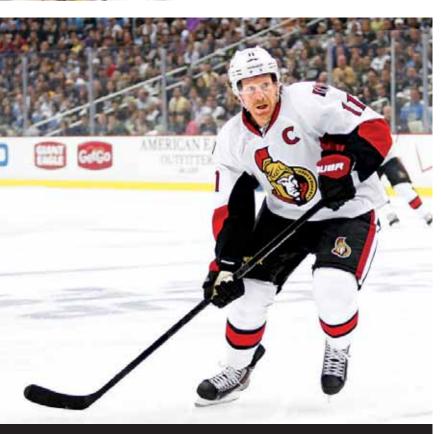
'It's a really sick and twisted day for it to happen'

Prostitution bill comes into effect on École Polytechnique anniversary

Lone loon rescue

Locals look to liberate lost loon from partially frozen lake PAGE3





THE RETURN OF ALFIE

Daniel Alfredsson will announce his retirement Thursday in the city he called home for 17 years. The longtime Sens captain will skate in pre-game warm-ups with the Senators one last time and take a ceremonial faceoff. Story, page 36. JUSTIN K. ALLER/GETTY IMAGES

Bill takes aim at illegal cabs

'Bandit' taxis. Ottawa South MPP John Fraser says law about drivers, not companies, but upstart tech firm Uber concerned by law



SCHOLEY
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Ottawa South MPP John Fraser introduced new private member's legislation on Wednesday that if passed would allow cities to come down harder on unlicensed "bandit" cabs.

If passed, the Protecting Passenger Safety Act would: increase fines to \$500 to \$30,000 per offence; add three demerit points to licences; suspend licences for 30 days for repeat offenders; and impound the vehicles of repeat offenders for 30 days.

The law could have implications for Uber drivers. UberX (an Uber service) launched in Ottawa last October, despite the city's warnings the company must follow bylaws and register as a taxi broker.

The company is not a licensed broker, and its drivers do not necessarily have the right permits to operate as cabbies.

But Uber has maintained it's a technology, not a taxi, service. City of Ottawa bylaw officers have laid charges against some UberX drivers after conducting sting operations.

Fraser said his private member's bill is not meant to target Uber and said he has not talked to Uber officials about the law.

"It's not about Blue Line or Hailo or Uber ... it's about the cab, it's about the vehicle and the driver that's transporting people," he told Metro, adding that illegal cabs have "been a per-

sistent problem" in Ottawa. Blue Line cabs are li-

Blue Line cabs are licensed by the City of Ottawa and wouldn't be affected by the bill.

Uber, however, has earned the praise of the Canadian Competition Bureau, a fact a spokesperson for the tech company was quick to point out.

"Uber welcomes consideration of sensible regulations that seek to codify expanded transportation alternatives and ensure public safety," Xavier Van Chau wrote in an email.

"We are concerned, however, that this private member's bill seeks to throttle innovation and wrongly group companies like Uber under this legislation."

In a statement, Coun. Mark Taylor commended the law: "Without respect for our community standards or the law, (bandit taxis) present a danger to residents and visitors to our nation's capital."





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Loon rescue effort launched

Edelweiss. Lone bird trapped in Quebec lake may be too thin or injured to fly south, speculates expert

Residents in West Quebec are trying to save a loon trapped on a partially frozen lake.

The bird can be seen gliding back and forth on a small unfrozen portion of Pike Lake in Edelweiss near Wakefield. Locals believe the bird is stranded, since loons typically fly south for the winter.

Tanya Dare, who lives on the lake, said people are working on rescuing the animal. "We have some leads on

"We have some leads on boats and people who know about loons," she wrote in an email. "It's wonderful how the community has rallied around this poor bird."

Mae Goguen of the Wild Bird Care Centre said the non-profit organization will care for the loon but lacks the equipment or staff to rescue the animal.

She speculates the loon is too thin or injured to fly away, though that won't make rescue efforts any easier.

University of Ottawa biology professor Adam Oliver Brown said loons need more than a small pool of water to fly.

fly.

"Being diving birds, their body configuration is such that their feet are very far back towards the back of their body ... so they need to run along long stretches of water before they can take flight," he said.

This stranded loon will occasionally dive underneath the water and is sometimes visited by a goose. Goguen said geese will sometimes stay for the winter if there's a body of water.

Mary Alison Cohen, who has a property on the lake, said she was "really upset" when she heard about the stranded animal and believes the loon is one of two babies who lived on Pike Lake this summer.

"This is the first year in a while that this lake has had loons, so we were all excited about that," she said. She hopes the loon will be able to fly away but she's torn about a rescue.

"There's an element of letting nature take its course," she said. LUCY SCHOLEY/METRO



A loon is trapped on Pike Lake near Wakefield, Que., on Wednesday. Lucy Scholey/METRO

City betting on LRT to boost transit use



OC Transpo annual ridership increased this summer for the first time in over a year, with 200,000 more trips in the year ending in June compared to annual ridership ending in May.

May.

Despite the extra trips in the June-to-June period, the city's public transportation service still saw an overall 1.4 per cent decrease in the second quarter of 2014 compared with the same period in 2013, with

trips totaling 22.94 million.

A survey conducted for Metro by MQO Research shows just 38 per cent of Ottawans think the city is doing enough to encourage public transit.

The city's chair of the transit committee, Diane Deans, has blamed dwindling rider numbers on cuts to federal public-sector workers, which has caused a steady decline in ridership numbers since about 2012. But she says with light-

rail transit moving forward, more commuters should see public transit as more appealing.

ing.
"LRT is integral to the longterm health and growth of our city," said Deans.

city," said Deans.

"The LRT system will provide improved travel time and will attract more customers to transit. It will also reduce our on-street bus operations, which will improve the local environment and streetscape."

Transit union president Craig Watson told Metro that there aren't many programs in place promoting public transit, but most of the hype is about light-rail transit.

Pat Scrimgeour, OC Transpo's manager of transit planning, said there are plans in the works to expand the O-Train service with new trains on the trillium line, among "other enhancements."

TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO



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City council may meet less often

New term. Decision to meet only eight times a year awaits public input



JOE LOFARO joe.lofaro@metronews.ca

City council has chosen to wait for the first round of committee meetings and seek public input to decide whether to chop the number of times they meet in a year in half.

At the city's first council meeting of the new term, all 23 councillors voted on a motion from Coun. Diane Deans to hold on a staff recommendation for three committees to only meet eight times per year, instead of 15.

Council voted in favour of debating the recommendation at the first meetings held by the environment committee,

Purpose

"If we don't have agenda items, there's no point to meet."

Coun. Scott Moffat, Rideau-Gouldbourn

transit commission, and community and protective services committee and to receive input from public delegations and keep holding special meetings when needed.

The agenda item was one of several up for debate Wednesday at a special council meeting called by Mayor Jim Watson to talk about governance review.

Most councillors agreed having less committee meetings is a good thing, especially if there is nothing to talk about.

"You just sometimes don't have the content to have a meeting every single month," said Rideau-Gouldbourn Coun. Scott Moffat, who is also vice-chair of the environment committee.

"The optics of cancelling meetings I could assure you is not great. (But) if we don't have agenda items, there's no point to meet. I don't think committee meetings should meet for the sake of meeting. I certainly don't buy the argument that we're lacking transparency because of the proposal."

Coun. Rick Chiarelli said he supported Deans' motion, but doesn't want to "prejudge" the workload of the next term's committee meetings.

Under \$100

Councillors can keep quiet on bigger gifts

The meeting was the first chance the eight new councillors were able to flex their muscles at the council table since the election

Rookie Rideau-Rockcliffe Coun. Tobi Nussbaum introduced a motion that would require all councillors to disclose gifts they receive worth \$100 or more, up from the previous \$30 threshold.

Staff had recommended a threshold of \$150.

Mayor Jim Watson, who voted in favour of the increase to \$100, said it was a reasonable adjustment.

"It's well below most other municipalities in Ontario," said Watson. JOE LOFARO/METRO

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etr⊕ CITY MATTERS

> This is the fourth in a five-part series in which we hear what you, the people of Ottawa, have to say on city issues. > On Friday, we look at how Ottawa residents feel about city services, from road maintenance to garbage collection. > Tweet your views with the hashtag #citymattersOttawa. > More online at metronews.ca.

City Matters survey: Ottawans believe residents are pretty tolerant but could do better on attitudes toward newcomers to the city

TREVOR GREENWAY



On LGBTQ tolerance

Sixty-five per cent of respondents rated the city at eight or higher (out of 10) when it comes to tolerance of gays and lesbians. It's not a surprising stat for LGBTQ activist Kevin Hatt, who sat on the city's Equity and Diversity Advisory Committee from 2005-09. "The city had done phenomenal work in reaching out to a lot of different communities and the LGBT was just one of those communities," he said.

On access to arts and entertainment venues and shops

Seventy-eight per cent said they either agree or strongly agree that Ottawa has a wide range of arts and cultural events.

Sixty-two per cent agree or strongly agree that the city does feature a lot of shopping within walking distance of where they live.





things you think about life in Ottawa

On access to pet-friendly parks

Exactly 50 per cent of those polled feel that there are enough pet-friendly parks in Ottawa, with nine per cent feeling that there isn't enough places to take their dog or cat. Twenty-one per cent remained neutral on the



On attitudes toward immigrants.

Only 48 per cent of those polled said that Ottawa is tolerant or very tolerant of immigrants from another country. Men tend to see immigrant relations better than women, with 54 per cent saying Ottawa is tolerant or very tolerant, while just 43 per cent of women agreed. Thirty-eight per cent of those who earn less than \$25,000 don't think the city is very tolerant when it comes to immigrants.



On ability to interact with neighbours

Fifty-four per cent said the ability to interact with neighbours was important or very important in making Ottawa a more "livable" place.

Men tend to be slightly more social than women, with 57 per cent saying interacting with neighbours

makes a city more livable while 51 per cent of women agreed. Seniors over the age of 55 seem to be the most social, with 65 per cent of that group saying neighbourly interactions were important in making Ottawa more livable.



Residents say city lacks affordable housing: Poll

Ottawa may have seen a decrease in homeless shelter use by more than 500 people over the last year, but residents say there's an affordable housing crunch here.

A new survey conducted for Metro by MQO Research shows 59 per cent of those polled feel there is a lack of affordable housing in the city, with just 21 per cent feeling the opposite.

The survey also showed that those who need affordable housing the most — those earning less than \$25,000 — are spending a whopping 60 per cent of their

monthly income on housing costs.

The numbers are in line with the Alliance to End Homelessness's 2013 report card on the state of the city's affordable housing facilities.

The non-profit organization gave the city a failing grade and executive director Mike Bulthuis says the survey numbers "speak to the heart" of Ottawa's homelessness issues.

"If your primary source of revenue is social assistance, your Ontario Works check doesn't even cover rent, let alone putting food on the

table or perhaps supporting your kids with clothes," said Bulthuis. "Even if you are working full time, but earning minimum wage, in the 40 percentile range of your monthly income is going towards average monthly rent. That is simply not afford-

Bulthuis says Canadians shouldn't spend more than 30 per cent of their monthly income on housing or shelter, but the survey shows the average Ottawa resident says they put about 35 per cent towards housing.

Community and protect-

ive services committee chairman Mark Taylor said the city has made progress in its 10-year plan to end homelessness by adding 305 new affordable housing units since the start of the year — units that are either currently occupied or on the way to being

The city also saw a four per cent decrease in the number of people on the Centralized Wait List over the course of 2013 and an 18 per cent decrease in the number of families — 697 — needing a shelter in 2013. There are 3,667 families still waiting for

affordable housing.

Taylor said the city is now using rent subsidies to augment building more affordable housing, but to really end homelessness, he said there needs to be a lot more help coming from the top.

'We need to have a national housing and homelessness strategy," he told Metro. "Until we get that level of commitment from those other levels of government, particularly the feds, we are just going to be Band-Aiding and moving the problem around.'

TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO



Centretown facility.

TREVOR GREENWAY/METR



Christmas spirit

Give generously to Ottawa food drive

Santa Claus stopped in at the Gloucester Market Loblaws store on Tuesday as part of the OC Transpo/ Loblaw Annual Christmas Food Drive, which will collect donations of non-perishable food items or cash for the Ottawa Food Bank on Dec. 6.

"The Ottawa Food Bank is

such an important organization here in our community, and events like the OC Transpo/Loblaw Food Drive help to make the holiday season brighter for those in our city who are less fortunate," said Mayor Jim Watson in a news release.

Donations are being accepted on Saturday, Dec. 6 between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. at 20 participating Loblaws, Real Canadian Superstore and No Frills locations across Ottawa. METRO

Different type of present

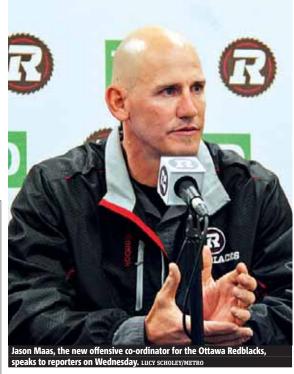
Give the gift of arts and recreation

The City of Ottawa is pitching gift cards for municipal arts-and-rec programs as Christmas gifts.

The city is selling Christmas gift certificates in denominations of \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$50 and says they can be purchased at any city-operated recreation and culture facility. The city says the certificates can be used at any city recreation centre or larger multi-use complex for memberships, classes or activities including fitness, pottery, ballroom dance, swimming, skating, basketball, martial arts and more.

The certificates can be used at any time of the year and have no expiry date. For more information, visit ottawa.ca.

METRO



Maas wants Redblacks to move forward

Offensive co-ordinator.

Former CFL MOP and Toronto Argos assistant coach brought in to bolster team's attack



LUCY SCHOLEY lucy.scholey@metronews.c

Ottawa met the new face of its CFL team on Wednesday.

Former Toronto Argonauts assistant coach Jason Maas has joined the Ottawa Redblacks as offensive co-ordinator, replacing Mike Gibson who was fired last month.

The 39-year-old said he's ready to step into the role of offensive co-ordinator after 14 years as quarterback and three as assistant coach.

He has two Grey Cups to his name and was twice nominated for the CFL's Most Outstanding Player Award when he played quarterback for Edmonton. He has also been traded to Montreal and Hamilton.

For him, the game is about discipline, strong communication and coming prepared to work hard every day.

"I'm not going to sit up here and say we're going to

Happy to have him

Head coach Rick Campbell said Maas brings a positive, "can-do attitude" to the offensive side. Campbell and Maas are very familiar with one another from their time in Edmonton. Campbell worked as a defensive and special teams assistant coach during part of Maas' tenure with the Eskimos.

score 50 points a game and have no turnovers or anything like that," he said. "It's the daily grind that we're going to enjoy, as an offence."

The 39-year-old will be tasked with fixing a struggling offence that finished last overall in scoring (15.4 points per game) and rushing (82.4 yards) and seventh in total yards (300 per game) last season.

The Redblacks finished their first season in the CFL with a 2-16 record. But he says he's not hung up on the Redblacks' first effort.

"I'd really prefer to look forward," he said. "All I know is from what I've seen ... is great effort, a young team, and those were the two things I was most excited about working with when I got here."





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Countdown. Sparks Street Mall goes country this New Year's Eve

CMA-award-winning country artist Tim Hicks will headline the New Year's Eve Capital Countdown on Sparks Street, the Sparks Street Business Improvement Association announced Wednesday.

Opening for Hicks and returning to Capital Count-down is Autumn's Cannon. DJ 8barz will also return to spin tunes right up to the Maple Leaf Drop and fireworks show at midnight.

Hicks opened for Dierks Bently at the Canadian Tire Centre on Dec. 2. His latest single, She Don't Drink Whiskey Anymore, is his second release from the album titled 5:01.

The New Year's Eve Capital Countdown stage will be located on Sparks Street just west of Metcalfe, and fireworks will greet the New Year, organizers say.

Previous years' celebra-

Previous years' celebrations have veered more toward rock 'n' roll, with such artists as K-os and the Arkells performing. METRO



Taylor Swift coming to Ottawa

Singer Taylor Swift, seen here performing during the 2014 Victoria's Secret Fashion Show at Earl's Court Exhibition Centre on Dec. 2 in London, England, is returning to Ottawa for a performance at the Canadian Tire Centre on July 6. Tickets go on sale Friday at CapitalTickets.ca, by phone at 613-599-FANS (3267) or 1-877-788-FANS (3267), in person at each of the 10 participating Canadian Tire stores in Ottawa as well as the store in Perth, The Sens Store at Carlingwood Mall and Place d'Orléans, any Ottawa Sports Experts location, Les Galeries de Hull, Ottawa Festivals and at the Canadian Tire Centre box office. DIMITRIDS KAMBOURIS/GETTY IMAGES

Owner of Troubadour Books and Records lives out dream

Local business. Tom Lee has gone from hanging out at book and record stores as a customer to running one of his very own in Centretown



BACKSTAGE PASS Jen Traplin ottawa@metronews.ca

For 15 years, Tom Lee worked in municipal and federal government before deciding on a dramatic change in profession.

He's now the owner of used book and record store Troubadour Books and Records.

"Troubadour mostly came about through a series of seemingly unrelated events where one thing led to another and, the next thing I knew, I was the owner of a book and record store," he says.

"I always seemed to spend way too much of my time in used book stores and record stores and thought it would be a dream job to run one someday.

"They work well together, and nobody in Ottawa was doing this yet, despite combination book and record stores being popular in cities like Montreal and Toronto."

Lee opened Troubadour Books and Records in a small retail space in the Byward Market just over a year ago. This past March, he moved to a larger location a few neighbourhoods away on Somerset

"I was in a very small

space in the Market and needed to expand after a few months. I wanted to move to a more residential neighbourhood, and Chinatown seemed ideal.

"I was right. I'm located in an area where locals walk to the grocery store, cafés and restaurants, so there is a lot of foot traffic. And it's such a fun, diverse area full of artists, students, professionals and families."

Troubadour carries new and used books on the main floor and an eclectic mix of vinyl (both new and used) upstairs.

"Most of my book stock comes from book fairs, thrift stores, discount wholesalers and customers. Once you start looking for books, it's incredible what you can find. Records are a different story though," says Lee. "While I do carry used

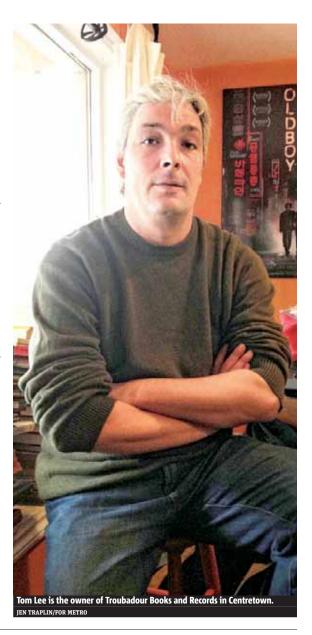
"While I do carry used vinyl, finding these records is practically a full-time job in itself, so I order a lot of new vinyl from distributors."

Lee also sells some locally made goods like music, hot sauce, T-shirts and art and, though his business has already expanded rapidly over the last year, he says he's hoping for even more of a surge in the years ahead.

"I would love to see Troubadour grow as a hub for music and book lovers."

At a glance

Troubadour Books and Records is located at 633 Somerset St. W. For more info, visit facebook.com/ Troubadour.Ottawa or call 613-567-7853.





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Brockville

Woman dead after collision on 401

A woman is dead following a two-vehicle collision on eastbound Highway 401 at Brockville.

Provincial police say the crash happened around 5 a.m. Wednesday when highways were slippery due to snow and freezing rain overnight.

They say an eastbound

car lost control, spun out and struck an eastbound transport.

A female passenger in the car, identified as Ludmila Sram, 38, of Richmond Hill, was pronounced dead at the scene.

The driver, identified as Arina Saveleva, 18, of Woodbridge, was taken to hospital in Brockville to be treated for non-lifethreatening injuries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oshawa

Man, 37, rescued from burning van

A 37-year-old Oshawa man is in hospital after being rescued from his crashed, burning van by a passerby and a police officer.

Durham regional police say the man was seriously injured when his minivan struck a concrete bridge just before 4 a.m. Wednesday in Oshawa, east of Toronto.

Police say the minivan was southbound on Ritson Road South when it crossed the northbound lanes and struck an underpass at Highway 401 before catching fire.

The driver was pulled from the vehicle — which was fully engulfed in flames — by a passerby who stopped to help and an officer who had arrived at the scene.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Eateries offer holiday pack

Bank Street. Four local restos team up to create a holiday gift certificate worth \$40



TREVOR GREENWAY trevor.greenway@metronews.c

Four local restaurants have joined forces to raise the profile of the Bank Street food scene over the holidays.

Burgers n' Fries Forever, Meat in the Middle, Wilf & Ada's and FlapJack's Pancake Shack have created a holiday gift certificate package worth \$40 — \$10 at each eatery — to encourage diners to eat out over the holidays and support local business.

"The food scene here is really starting to take off," said Jamil Bhuya, co-owner of Burgers n' Fries Forever. "It's not the sketchy part of Bank Street that it used to be."

The campaign isn't specific to each restaurant, as you can't take \$40 for Wilf & Ada's and neglect the other three businesses.

It's a way to push diners to taste some of the local restaurants that feature local meat and vegetables from local farms — at joints they may have not visited before.

"We all have got to stick together," said Meat in the Middle co-owner Jeremy McDonald. "We are all ma and pa, so strength in numbers."

McDonald says the food scene on Bank Street is starting to flourish and the days of slamming a sandwich down your throat over top of your keyboard are dying.

"Ottawa has not had a lot of great food in the past, but it's starting to change," said McDonald. "We are all along that same concept — that fast, casual, decent price point — but you can get better food. Sandwich franchises and cold cuts — people don't have to eat that way anymore."

Bhuya and McDonald hope people buy the gift certificates for stocking stuffers and gifts for friends, but more importantly, Bhuya is hoping to find one under his own tree.

"I would love this as a gift," he said. "I eat a lot."



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BFF co-owner Jamil Bhuya and Meat in the Middle co-owner Jeremy McDonald show off their new holiday gift certificate bundle. TREVOR GREENWAY/METRO

metronews.ca Thursday, December 4, 2014 **OTTAWA**



Beau's goes to Gatineau

Festibière d'hiver.

Winter beer fest to showcase Vankleek Hill's craft brewery as it starts sales in Quebec



The winter beer festival Gatineau's Festibière d'hiver is getting an Upper Canada twist with its first craft brewer hailing from Ontario.

Organizers of the Jan. 30-31 celebration of all things sudsy announced Wednesday at the Canadian Museum of History that Beau's All Natural Brewing Company from Vankleek Hill, east of Ottawa, will be added to the lineup of brewers showcasing beers.

"We're really happy to be back at the museum. It was our first year last year (at the museum). It was a great success.... It's basically right on the border of Quebec and Ontario so it opens up a big market for the Ontarians to come over," festival general manager Michael O'Farrell.

Ontarians love trying out Quebec beers he said, but this year Quebecers will also get to try Ontario's craft brew scene as shortly after the festival, Beau's will be selling their brew in Quebec in retail stores.

"It's taken us eight years to get our beer 20 kilometres east of Vankleek Hill. We couldn't be more excited to finally be able to sell in La Belle Province, and I can't think of a better way to celebrate than at Festibière," said Steve Beauchesne, co-founder of Beau's All Natural Brewing Company.

"We're really happy to partner up with Beau's. Their launch in Quebec in February is going to be amazing. I think it's going to open up a lot of door to other microbreweries in Ontario to do the same and for us in turn to host other microbreweries from Ontario at other editions of our festival," said

Like last year, O'Farrell said the festival will happen both inside and outside the museum with live music, campfires, beer inside and outside and lots of fun.

The tough life of the out-of-province beer

Quebec and Ontario have some of the most stringent trade barriers to microbrewers selling into other provinces and that needs to change, says Beau's All Natural Brewing Company co-founder Steve

"I think if you are brewing in Canada you should be treated as a domestic, but right now you're an import," he said.

Beauchesne says Beau's wanted to be part of Festibière for the last four years, but trade barriers wouldn't

To a degree it's a challenge all craft brewers face when looking to expand to other provinces. But he says Ontario and Quebec are some of the toughest markets to pene-

"Last year we decided we absolutely needed to make the journey into Quebec and we spent literally the entire year getting the permits in place; and the timing worked out perfectly with the (Festibière) winter event because we're literally launching the day after," said Beauchesne.

Beau's had to set up a

warehouse in Quebec, hire staff and fill out a 31-part application form he said was "literally two inches thick," and then wait for the six-month application review process to complete.

While the process was very expensive and difficult he said the Quebec government employees they worked with were "really welcoming and helpful."

SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO



LOVE KITCHENALIA.

Merchants like Robin make Westboro the great neighbourhood that it is. She and her staff go above and beyond to make Kitchenalia a destination for culinary amateurs and experts alike. Bring in your tablecloth and they'll help you colour match with new napkins. Buy the latest cake pan and the next time they see you, they'll ask you how it's working out. Personal, individualized service is a given here.

"Everyone who works here has a passion for cooking, baking or home décor and it makes for a great chemistry with our customers - because they're just as passionate as us."



Bring your shopping list to Westboro this holiday season and experience the first-rate customer service and outstanding selection of our almost 150 local shops and restaurants.

westborovillage.com



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NDP. Mulcair endorses stricter rules for firearms

A New Democrat government would ensure police are able to track every firearm in Canada but would also seek to avoid the pitfalls that made the now-defunct long-gun registry so controversial, Tom Mulcair said Wednesday.

The NDP leader disputed the Conservative government's contention that gun registration is an unfair, onerous requirement for law-abiding gun owners.

"I have nothing against seeing honest farmers and duck hunters be able to have their weapons," Mulcair said outside an NDP caucus meeting. "But, you know, that honest hunter who goes out with his pickup truck, it's a registered pickup truck.... The trailer's registered, and the 4x4 is registered. Heck, his dog is registered."

New Democrats "have confidence in the ability of farmers and duck hunters to fill out a



form," he added. While farmers and hunters are entitled to own firearms, Mulcair suggested there must be strict limits.

"What kind of duck do you hunt with an assault weapon? A pterodactyl?"

There's no reason a system of tracking firearms has to go "overboard," as the Liberals did when they created the long-gun registry and imposed criminal penalties for failure to register, Mulcair said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Class action

A federal government law-

yer is asking B.C.'s highest

court to throw out a class-

action lawsuit by Canadian

Forces members injured in

been stripped of benefits.

Afghanistan who say they've

the 41 full-time employees

originally projected for the

eign service providers com-

The analysis also says for-



Jean Béliveau was a 'role model to us all'

Serge Laflamme lights a candle at a statue of Jean Béliveau on Wednesday in Longueuil, Que. The Montreal Canadiens hockey legend passed away Tuesday at the age of 83. On his death, he was remembered as a "legend" and a "role model to us all." Tributes poured in from the hockey world and from political leaders after the Canadiens announced that perhaps their best player ever, and certainly their greatest captain, had died, "He was a hero to generations of his fellow French Canadians and hockey fans everywhere. Our sport has lost a great ambassador," said Canadiens owner and president Geoff Molson. PHOTO: RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS TEXT: THE CANADIAN PRESS

For more coverage, see page 36

Analysis. Veterans Affairs under spent on war graves

Veterans Affairs spent millions less than it budgeted for maintaining war graves last year, a report reveals.

The departmental performance review of the memorialand cemetery-maintenance program shows just 2,500 of 7,000 grave markers were properly maintained last year.

The government earmarked more than \$18.5 million in fiscal 2013-14 to help preserve the memory of Canadians who died serving their country, the analysis report shows.

Instead, the department spent \$2.6 million less, or just over \$15.9 million, with just eight people doing the preservation work — far short of pleted maintenance work on only 80 per cent of Canada's overseas memorials, short of their 85 per cent target.

program.

Canada Revenue Agency

THE CANADIAN PRESS

University may study Peladeau's media ownership

Quebecor Inc.

The centre for media studies at Universite Laval is expected to decide next week if it will study whether Pierre Karl Peladeau should continue owning the controlling shares in Quebecor Inc

The Liberal government has tabled a motion asking the university to look into the effects on democracy of a politician who controls a media empire.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heartbleed hacker facing more charges

The RCMP have laid 16 more charges against a London, Ont., man originally charged last April in connection with the Heartbleed computer bug and the loss of data from the Canada Revenue Agency website.

Stephen Arthuro Solis-Reyes had been charged with unauthorized use of a computer and mischief in relation to data.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prostitution law comes on anniversary of massacre

Dec. 6. Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre is also a nationwide day of action on violence against women

It's "sick and twisted" that Canada's controversial new prostitution bill comes into force on a day dedicated to eradicating violence against women, says one of the women behind a successful court challenge of the old laws.

The new legislation, known as the Protection of Communities and Exploited Persons Act, comes into force on Saturday, Dec. 6, which is also the National Day of Remembrance

and Action on Violence Against Women.

The day — the anniversary of the shooting deaths of 14 women at Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal at the hands of gunman Marc Lepine — has evolved into an occasion to commemorate all female victims of violence.

Those who work in the sex industry have expressed their disdain for the new prostitution laws, which they fear will result in more victims, not fewer.

"I think that it's a really sick and twisted day for it to happen," said Valerie Scott, one of three women behind the landmark Supreme Court case that declared Canada's legislation on prostitution unconstitutional

"That day should not solely

Sensitivity issue?

"I'm sure if they had thought about it, they might have picked another date, if they were a bit sensitive."

NDP justice critic Francoise Boivin

be for women who were murdered by Marc Lepine; it should also be for women who were murdered by Robert Pickton," said Scott.

Pickton, a B.C. pig farmer, was convicted almost exactly seven years ago for the gruesome murders of six prostitutes and had been charged in the deaths of 20 others.

The case was among those

referenced by the Supreme Court last year when it struck down Canada's prostitution laws, arguing that they deprived sex workers of the ability to work safely.

The decision gave the government one year to establish new laws. The new bill was introduced June 4, reviewed by both the House of Commons and Senate and granted royal assent on Nov. 6.

By the bill's own terms, it was slated to come into effect 30 days after that — which is how Dec. 6 came to be the date.

"We do not control the passage of bills in the Senate, nor when a bill receives royal assent," said Clarissa Lamb, a spokeswoman for Justice Minister Peter MacKay.

HE CANADIAN PRESS

Top Mountie testifies in harassment case

A longtime Mountie suing the RCMP for harassment was seen as "almost unequivocally embittered towards the force" while his superiors were regarded as "blameless" despite the man's repeated allegations against them, RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson testified in a Newmarket, Ont., court on Wednesday.

The head of the force was subpoenaed to testify at the

civil trial of Sgt. Peter Merrifield, who alleges in his lawsuit that he was harassed by some of his superiors within the RCMP and that they employed aggressive and intimidating means to try to silence him.

He was questioned at length on what he was told about Merrifield, with Merrifield's lawyer suggesting the commissioner got incomplete information on the officer, which led to further damage to his reputation as recently as last year.

Court also heard that Merrifield had written to Paulson raising the issue of a superior's possible involvement with prostitutes.

When Merrifield's lawyer asked if an investigation was conducted into the matter, Paulson said "no."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mountie shot

An officer who was shot during a traffic stop in Kamloops, B.C., is in critical but stable condition and has provided Mounties with information, says Supt. Brad Mueller. Mueller said the officer has undergone emergency surgery.



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Dalhousie's 'Puppy Room' quells stressed-out students

Furry therapy. Students delight in a chance to cuddle away some pre-exam anxiety



RYAN Metro in Halifax

More than a dozen Dalhousie University students huddled in smiling groups around redvested therapy dogs on Wednesday, running their hands through soft fur or watching the pups perform tricks with their owners.

The Halifax school's annual Puppy Room opened for two days at the Studley campus this week, and expanded to the Sexton Campus for the first time on Wednesday to bring some warm fuzzies to stressed-out students.

"It just filled us full of love. Forget about math, forget about exams, it's a time to play with dogs," Shalki Shukla, an international student from India, said with a smile.

Shukla said she had been missing her own dog and looking forward to the event — which ran into a bit of her class time but Shukla said she couldn't pass up the opportunity because "dogs are the best."

"Being an international student always felt very lonely, but coming here it's like 'Oh my God, I got my family back,'" said internetworking student Monica Sheeba, also from India.

Two golden retrievers, a Bernese mountain dog, a St. Bernard and a Labradoodle soaked up the attention for the afternoon, and master's student Joel Scott said although he's not a "dog person per se" it's nice to be around calm and relaxing animals.

Courtroom helper

As two child witnesses take the stand in a Calgary courtroom this week, they will be comforted by a special fourlegged support worker.

 Hawk, the first-ever therapy dog to sit inside a Canadian courtroom, was there to comfort as a seven-year-old girl took the stand Tuesday. The girl is testifying against her father, who has been accused of sexually abusing her. Her nine-year-old brother will also eventually testify, with the black Labrador retriever by his side as well.

"Cats are pretty indifferent to anything," he said with a smile.



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Mamma mia: New Mona Lisa theory

Leonardo da Vinci.

Italian historian speculates renowned face could be artist's mother, who may have been a Chinese slave

An Italian historian's theory that Mona Lisa might be a Chinese slave and Leonardo da Vinci's mother — making the 15th-century polymath half-chinese — sent online commentators into a frenzy Wednesday.

Angelo Paratico, a Hong Kong-based historian and novelist from Italy, told the South China Morning Post: "On the back of Mona Lisa, there is a Chinese landscape and even her face looks Chinese."

Chinese web users expressed astonishment and disbelief Wednesday, posting dozens of parodies of the painting.

Little is known about Caterina, the mother of the artist, writer, mathematician and inventor, and the identity of the sitter for the portrait hanging in Paris's Louvre museum has long been a matter of debate.

Paratico, who is finishing a book entitled Leonardo da Vinci: A Chinese Scholar Lost in Renaissance Italy, cited Austrian neurologist Sigmund Freud's 1910 assumption that the painting was inspired by the artist's mother.

"One wealthy client of Leonardo's father had a slave called Caterina. After 1452, Leonardo's date of birth, she disappeared from the documents," he told the paper.

Many posters on China's Twitter-like Sina Weibo were incredulous.

"I'm so sad that you thought I'm a foreigner!" wrote one, with an image of a frowning



Mona Lisa holding two rolls of toilet paper and blowing her

"I'd rather be from wherever I am loved."

JEAN-PIERRE MULLER/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Another user replaced her features with unlikely faces ranging from Chinese male comedian Zhao Benshan to British actor Rowan Atkinson, to a grimacing robot holding a Mona Lisa mask.

The topic had been viewed more than four million times and triggered 160,000 postings by midday Wednesday.

"I now understand why her

The Mona Lisa

The evidence for a Chinese connection appears to be slight, with Paratico saying he was sure "up to a point" that da Vinci's mother was from the Orient. "To make her an oriental Chinese, we need to use a deductive method," he added.

smile looks so mysterious and concealed — it's typically Chinese," said another poster. AFP

A.I. Hawking warns that artificial intelligence could end the human race

Physicist Stephen Hawking has warned that the rise of artificial intelligence could see the human race become extinct.

In an interview with the BBC, the scientist said that while "primitive forms" of artificial intelligence have proved useful, if the technology is developed to a level that can surpass humans, it "could

deserres.ca 📜

spell the end of the human race."

He said that advanced artificial intelligence would "take off on its own, and redesign itself at an ever increasing rate."

Human biological evolution will not be able to compete and "would be superseded," he said in the interview Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





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Brown case. Stepfather apologizes for comments

The stepfather of Michael Brown has apologized for angry comments he made after the grand jury decided not to indict the police officer who killed his unarmed 18-year-old stepson, but said his remarks had nothing to do with the arson and looting that ravaged Ferguson and the surrounding area.

Police said Tuesday they are investigating Louis Head's

comments as part of a broader inquiry into the arson, vandalism and looting that followed the announcement of the grand jury decision on Nov. 24. Brown's death inflamed racial tensions in the Missouri city of Ferguson and fuelled a debate over relations between law enforcement and black communities across the country.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Egypt. Gov't to criminalize insulting the uprisings

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi has said his office is drafting a law to criminalize insulting the uprisings that toppled President Hosni Mubarak in 2011 and his Islamist successor Mohammed Morsi last year.

The move intends to ease concerns on both sides of a widening rift over whether the two popular movements expressed the genuine will of Egyptians.

The dispute was further stoked by a judge's dismissal last weekend of a murder case against Mubarak over the killing of protesters.

Just what would constitute an insult however was unclear, as was the time frame for the legislation's implementation. Such a law, however, would infringe on the freedom of expression guaranteed by the nation's new constitution.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two more women accuse Bill Cosby of sex abuse



Attorney Gloria Allred, left, speaks at a press conference with Chelan, right, an alleged victim of Bill Cosby, on Wednesday in Los Angeles, Calif. Cosby has been accused of sexual assault by approximately 20 women.

Press conference.

The pair have never spoken about their experiences: Attorney

Three women who claim they were victimized by Bill Cosby appeared at a Wednesday afternoon news conference called by attorney Gloria Allred.

Allred wrote in a news release that she will propose a way the women can "obtain justice" despite statutes of limitations that would prevent criminal or civil cases from being filed.

Two of the women have never spoken about their experiences with Cosby, Allred wrote. The third woman was prepared to testify against Cosby to support another woman's 2005 lawsuit claiming sexual assault by Cosby in Pennsylvania. Cosby settled that lawsuit before it went to trial.

The press conference comes a day after a sexual battery lawsuit was filed by Judy Huth, a Southern California woman who claims the comedian molested her in a bedroom of the Playboy Mansion around 1974 when she was 15 years old.

Huth's lawsuit states she became aware of the psychological damage of the incident recently. Under California law, adult victims who suffered childhood sexual abuse can file lawsuits within three years of when they discover the abuse caused significant psychological trauma.

In recent weeks, more than a dozen women have accused Cosby of drugging and sexually abusing them. Cosby's lawyer, Marty Singer, did not respond to requests for comment on Wednesday, though Cosby's lawyers previously have issued statements characterizing some of the claims as previously discredited and others as untrue. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Hundreds mourn woman who aided girls

Germany. Woman came to rescue of girls being harassed by men, was left comatose after fight, pulled from life support

Hundreds of mourners paid their last respects Wednesday to a young woman hailed as a hero, who suffered fatal injuries after intervening to help two teenage girls being harassed by a group of men.

Tugce Albayrak had been in a coma since mid-November following an early-morning altercation in Offenbach, near Frankfurt. She died Friday, her 23rd birthday, after her family gave permission to switch off her life support.

Albayrak's funeral was held outside a mosque in

Waechtersbach in central Germany. Her coffin, covered by a green cloth with Arabic script in gold, was placed on a stone table, flanked by German and Turkish flags. Turkey's ambassador to Germany and the Hesse state governor also attended the ceremony, conducted in both Turkish and German.

The bravery of the Turkish-German woman triggered an outpouring of public sympathy in Germany.

Albayrak and two friends came to the aid of two teenage girls who were being harassed by several young men inside a bathroom in a McDonald's at about 4 a.m. on Nov. 15. Later outside, one of the men allegedly hit Albayrak in the head, and she fell to the ground.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Climate change

2014 tied for hottest year: UN

Temperature data shows 2014 is currently tied for the hottest year on record, the UN weather agency said Wednesday.

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said the global average temperature in January-October was 0.57 C above average, the same as in 2010.

The ocean temperature set a new record in the nine-month period, while land temperatures were the fourth or fifth highest since record-keeping began in the 19th century, the WMO said in a UN report.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sexual abuse

The truth must prevail: Pope

Pope Francis assured Dominican authorities on Wednesday that the truth must prevail in the case of his former ambassador to the Caribbean country who is accused of sexually abusing young boys. Francis met with the Dominican Republic's top prosecutor, Francisco Dominguez Brito, after his Wednesday general audience. Wesolowski has been defrocked and placed under modified house arrest inside Vatican City pending a decision by the Vatican criminal court on whether to indict him. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airstrikes. Iran believed to have struck at ISIL: U.S.

Iranian jets have carried out airstrikes in Iraq against militants from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) in recent days, U.S. officials and independent analysts say, underscoring the strange alliances generated by the war against the extremist group that has beheaded Americans and blown up rivals' holy sites.

Washington and Tehran are locked in tough negotiations over Iran's nuclear program. But at the same time, the two adversaries have been fighting parallel campaigns on the same side in Iraq to defend the Shiite-dominated government — and the region's Kurds — from ISIL militants who have seized large sections of Iraq and Syria.

It has long been known that Iranian troops and advisers have been fighting alongside Iraqi forces against ISIL, but until this week there had been no confirmation of Iranian air activity. The timing and nature of the strikes are not clear, but U.S. officials say some involved American-made F-4 Phantoms, twin-engine fighter bombers that were sold to Iran's U.S.-

backed shah in the 1970s and were last produced by McDonnell Aircraft Corp. in 1981.

nell Aircraft Corp. in 1981. Qatari-based broadcaster Al-Jazeera filmed a jet flying over Iraq on Nov. 30 that was identified by Jane's Defence Weekly as an Iranian Phantom.

Speaking in Brussels on Wednesday, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Iranian attacks on ISIL militants would represent a positive development

"I think it's self-evident that if Iran is taking on ISIL in some particular place, and it's confined to taking on ISIL, and it has an impact, its net effect is positive," Kerry told reporters. "But that's not something we're co-ordinating."

In Iran, a spokeswoman for the foreign ministry, Marzieh Afkham, also denied that Iran has co-operated with the U.S.led coalition but neither confirmed nor denied the Iranian airstrikes against ISIL in Iraq.

Iraq's Prime Minister, Haider al-Abadi, told reporters Wednesday, "I'm not aware there were Iranian airstrikes." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Consumer debt rising

Equifax. Heading into the holiday shopping season, Canadians already owe an average of \$20,891, excluding mortgages

Canadians continue to pile on debt and now collectively owe more than \$1.5 trillion, according to the latest figures from Equifax Canada.

The consumer credit-rating agency says the level at the end of the third quarter was up 7.4 per cent from \$1.409 trillion a year ago.

Nearly two-thirds of the total owed, or \$985.1 billion, is mortgage debt.

Excluding mortgages, the average debt held by Canadians stands at \$20,891.

The auto-loan and instalment-loan sectors showed the most significant increases, at

Equifax said the increase in consumer demand for new credit has been driven mainly by credit-card and auto-credit inquiries.

In addition, demand for consumer credit has now increased for six consecutive quarters in the West, while activity in the eastern provinces continues to slow.

6.8 and 5.8 per cent year-overyear respectively.

"Following a frenzied start to the festive shopping season, with more to come in the countdown to Christmas, we can expect the consumer debt to rise even further," said Regina Malina, senior director of decision insights at Equifax Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Top court hears pregnancy discrimination case

Peggy Young (in foreground), a Virginia woman who lost her UPS job because she became pregnant, leaves the U.S. Supreme Court after the court heard arguments in her case Dec. 3 in Washington, D.C. The Supreme Court is weighing how much employers must do to accommodate pregnant workers under a federal law aimed at combating discrimination against them. UPS refused to give Young temporary light-duty work so she could avoid lifting heavy packages after she became pregnant in 2006. WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY IMAGES

Energy East project

Pipeline concerns narrowed down

Ontario's concerns about the environmental impact of the proposed Energy East pipeline narrowed considerably Wednesday following a meeting between premiers Kathleen Wynne and Jim Prentice of Alberta.

After the meeting, Wynne said her concerns were limited to greenhousegas emissions from the pipeline project itself, not from so-called upstream emissions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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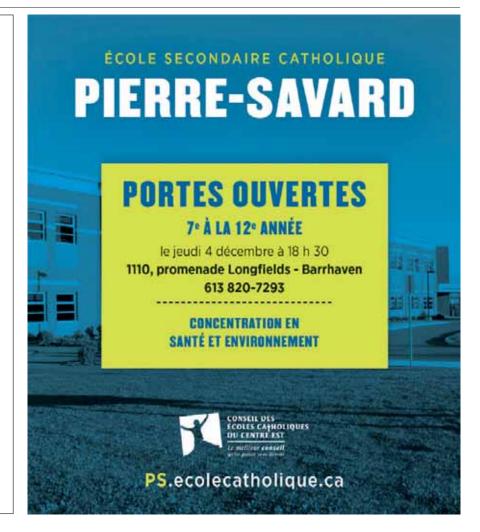




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VOICES

HOUSING AS A HUMAN RIGHT

Do people have a constitutional right to adequate housing? The Court of Appeal for Ontario recently ruled that this is a matter for governments to decide, not courts, but advocates plan to take their fight to the Supreme Court of Canada. Metro staff from across the country talked to housing-rights champions for their take:



The distinction the judge in this case made between the role of the courts and the role of the legislature is an important one, says Stacy Douglas, assistant professor of Law and Legal Studies at Carleton University.

"It rests on an idea, central to our democracy, that parliament makes law, and courts merely ensure that this law is being upheld," she said. "However, this is an increasingly grey area as our law continues to change and transform to accommodate demands, for example, for socio-economic

"The appellants in this case are claiming that the overall approach of the government

has led to conditions that violate their rights to adequate housing. (But) because there is no constitutional right to housing and because there is no otherwise stated standard for them to use to evaluate governmental policy, the courts claim it must be a matter for the legislature."

As for whether an absence of government action can be considered a violation of constitutional rights, Douglas said "the law is constantly changing, and judges should be very careful about deciding too swiftly what is justiciable and what isn't. Something that is unacceptable today may very well be acceptable tomorrow. SEAN MCKIBBON/METRO IN OTTAWA

Nova Scotia

Jim Graham, program co-ordinator, Affordable Housing Association of Nova Scotia

Thoughts on the ruling? I'm not surprised at all.... It's more of a policy issue

than a charter issue. Why should Canada care?

We live in a subarctic climate. If you're not adequately housed in the wintertime, you die. (Also) research demonstrates that ... secure housing is a foundation that you absolutely need if you're going to pursue better health, better education, better quality of life, period.

What unique challenges does your community

There's a lack of adequate affordable housing, and the shelter component is reasonably low.

What policy changes would you like to see?

To have the provincial government ... find policies that increase the supply of truly affordable housing, whether that's acquisition, refurbish, whether it's build some more, whether it's deeper rent subsidies.

British Columbia

DJ Larkin, lawyer, Pivot Legal Society

Thoughts on the ruling?

Obviously we're disappointed.... When it comes to fundamental rights, like the right to life and security of the person ... that's not a policy decision. It's extremely clear in international law and in Canada's legal obligations that there is some obligation to make sure that people are housed and safe.

Why should Canada care? We're one of the only rich countries that doesn't have a national housing

plan.... This is the most fundamental thing that you must ensure for a healthy society.

What unique challenges does your community face?

Vancouver (has) an increased number of unsheltered, homeless people on our streets. We're also struggling with very, very fast gentrification in our Downtown Eastside ... and people who relied on this neighbourhood as their last stop before homelessness are now being pushed out.

Manitoba

Clark Brownlee, co-ordinator, Right to Housing Coalition

Thoughts on the ruling?

It should've been passed ... and they should've been allowed to at least table their documents in support of Canadians who are homeless. I think it was a gutsy thing to take the rights to housing to court.

Why should Canada care?

From a purely economic standpoint, it costs more by far to have a homeless person live on the streets than in housing. It's a humanitarian issue outside of the rights issue.

What policy changes would you like to see?

I would like to see the federal government get back into funding social housing — the way they did for years. They stopped it in the early '90s in order to balance their budget. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation makes millions of dollars of profit every year that just goes into the federal coffers, which needs to go back into making social and affordable housing available to all Canadians. We don't need to have homelessness in this country.

Alberta

Tim Richter, president & CEO, Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness

Thoughts on the ruling?

This is a bump in the long road to achieving housing rights in Canada.

Why should Canada care?

Housing is one of the basic preconditions upon which all other rights are built. People trapped in homelessness are not free — they are wards of largely dysfunctional systems that breed dependence on others for food, shelter, safety. There can be no right to life if your health is compromised by lack of adequate housing.

Interviews compiled by Kristen Lipscombe/Metro in Halifax, Darren Krause/ Metro in Calgary and Adriana Mingo/for Metro in Winnipeg.

From refrigerated freebies to parking fundraisers: Initiatives from around the world to help the homeless

Saudi Arabia

Take at your leisure



A man in Saudi Arabia installed a fridge outside his home to allow homeless people to seek food without begging. Good Samaritans are welcome to help stock the fridge.

The Vatican

Shower in the Square

The Vatican is installing public restrooms with showers in St. Peter's Square to cater to homeless men and women. The idea came after the Pope's chief almsgiver met a homeless man who said he could always find food but never a place to wash himself.

Gym doubles as dorm

French advocacy group Not Without A Roof provides overnight shelter for homeless families by allowing them to sleep in the gym of



their children's school. Eight schools offer shelter to more than 100 students.

Worldwide

Safe place to put your stuff

Several cities around the world, including New York City and Lisbon, provide lockers to their homeless citizens. There are strict rules pertaining to their use, including not using them

U.S.A.

Park and donate

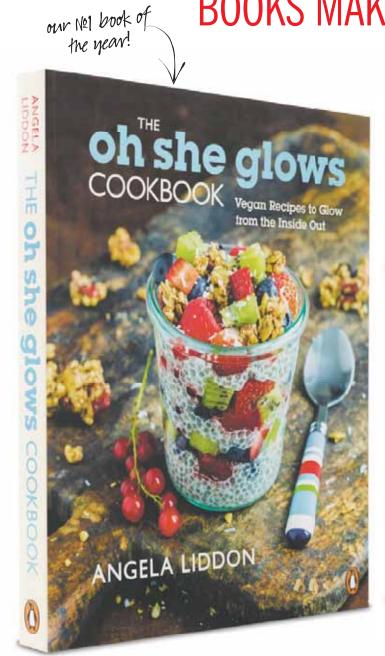
Pasadena, Calif., set up 14 orange parking meters around the city that accept cash and credit-card payments that go directly to local organizations that help feed and shelter the





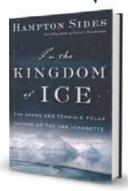
Read Indigo's Best of 2014

BOOKS MAKE THE BEST GIFTS



THE OH SHE GLOWS COOKBOOK – ANGELA LIDDON Remember when eating your vegetables was a chore? Canada's favourite food blogger has made it a pleasure.

loved "Unbroken"? try this



IN THE KINGDOM
OF ICE –
HAMPTON SIDES
An un-put-down-able true
story of arctic survival and
comradeship.



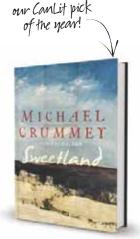
THE OPPOSITE
OF LONELINESS –
MARINA KEEGAN
We experienced our own
coming-of-age all over again
in this hope-filled collection
of stories by a young writer



ALL THE LIGHT
WE CANNOT SEE –
ANTHONY DOERR
A masterful tale set during
the Second World War
that stayed with us long
after we read it.



CASSANDRA CLARE & HOLLY BLACK We entered the Magisterium and found ourselves in an adventure as thrilling as Harry Potter.



SWEETLAND – MICHAEL CRUMMEY
A moving story about a Canadian way of life that is rapidly vanishing.



IAN MCEWAN
McEwan is a virtuoso and
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instrument. The Children
Act is breathtaking – lives
crashing, tangling together
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Turning the page on family

Interview. Alan Cumming details his difficult childhood in a memoir, and says he's now at ease with missing out on being a dad

When Scottish actor Alan Cumming was 28, he endured an episode he's come to believe was a nervous breakdown — or, as he memorably refers to it in his new memoir, a Nervy B.

He was eight years into a marriage to actress Hilary Lyon and the couple was trying to have a child. As parenthood loomed and Cumming became increasingly swallowed by anxiety, he started to realize he hadn't quite escaped the dark shadow of his own father.

As documented in Not My Father's Son, the Tony Award-winning actor was raised by a mercurial terror who subjected Cumming and his brother, Tom, to a routine of jarring physical violence and withering verbal criticism.

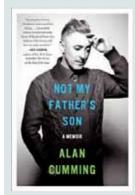
Then 28 years old and considering the reality of fatherhood for the first time, Cumming worried about a cycle of violence. Now 49 and still childless, Cumming says he remains vigilant for echoes of his deceased dad. "I'm not a father, and I've chosen not to be now," he said during an interview in Toronto this week. "Sometimes if I get annoyed with a child, or even my dogs, I sort of think: 'Oh gosh.' I sometimes check myself.

"That will never go away
— that worry," he added. "Because I am my father's (son).
I have madness on both sides
of my family. Let's face it. It's a
miracle I'm functioning."

Although Cumming just worked the book's title into



Daddy dearest



In one of many chilling memories from his memoir, Cumming writes about his father flying into a rage over his supposedly shaggy hair. His dad dragged him by the scruff of his neck for dozens of yards, threw him across a workbench and shaved his head roughly with a pair of rusty clippers he usually used to shear sheep.

conversation casually, it's actually quite a loaded statement for the multi-hyphenate star — one that launched a "crazy summer" that served as the setting for Cumming's memoir.

It was 2010, and Cumming was participating in the British genealogy documentary Who Do You Think You Are? As he was preparing to climb his family tree, he fell into contact with his father for the first time in more than a decade.

His dad was dying of cancer and had troubling news for his family: Alan Cumming, he was certain, was not actually his son but instead the product of an extramarital affair pursued by Cumming's beloved

Just as he was reeling from

this revelation, Cumming was reaching profound conclusions in his documentary-aided investigation into the mysterious death of his maternal grandfather, a British soldier named Tommy Darling who had disappeared into a life in Malaysia marked in equal measure by honour and havoc. Cumming documents the dual familial probes in sometimes alternating chapters in his tightly focused memoir. And he does eventually find out whether his own father was telling the truth — but it would spoil the book to reveal that answer here.

For a long time the actor was uncharacteristically terse on the topic of his father. In the U.K., where Cumming's life has long been a subject of interest to the tabloid press, it had been established that Cumming and his father were estranged but the reasons why were somewhat blurry.

Even those closest to Cumming were stunned to read his account of a childhood spent weathering a campaign of psychological cruelty and intimidation. "My friends are shocked," said Cumming, nattily clad in a royal blue dress shirt and black vest.

Considerations of parenthood lingered for Cumming, by the way, beyond that anxious time in his 20s.

Now, however — months away from his 50th birthday and years into his marriage to longtime partner Grant Shaffer — Cumming has confidently closed the book on fatherhood.

"I did want to do that, and I really don't now," he said. "I think I got older and I got content. And I don't want to change that. I'm content. So I don't think a child is something that I need to fulfil me anymore."

THE CANADIAN PRESS





metronews.ca
Thursday, December 4, 2014

BOOKS 29

Author has risked her life to change our views on Iran

Books. Iranian news correspondent says people in her home country care far less about nuclear bombs than they do about personal freedoms

EMILY LAURENCE

Serving as the Iranian correspondent for the New York Times — among other publications — has put Nazila Fathi's life in danger many times over the past decade, but she never questioned her

choice to become a journalist.

"You become so overwhelmed by the events that somehow you don't feel the fear," she tells us, adding that growing up in Iran during the Revolution made her accustomed to living in a fearful climate, and she didn't realize just how stressful it was until she left the country.

Fathi's new memoir, The Lonely War (out Dec. 9) chronicles the aftermath of the revolution and how it affected her personally.

The way Fathi weaves Iran's narrative with her own makes for a compelling read. She tells us that one reason she wrote the book is to reverse stereotypes people have about Iran. This even presented itself when she was

finalizing the book's cover.

The publisher said people wouldn't know this was a book about Iran unless we put a woman wearing a chador on the cover," Fathi says. "Whenever someone wants to use an image to represent Iran, it's a picture of a woman in a chador. This is such a cliché, both for the regime and here in the West. Iranian women want to be free with how they dress. You hardly ever come across a woman who lives here, in a free country, and wears the chador."

In the end, Fathi took her publisher's advice and she's ultimately happy with the cover. "I hope once people read the book that these are not true perceptions of the country and its people."

Fathi says another misconception is that nuclear talk is the most important issue to the Iranian people. "They don't care about it. This is the most important issue in America's foreign policy and Israel's foreign policy but, for Iranians, it's a minor issue."

Instead, she says they care about gaining more personal freedoms. As the middle class has grown — it now accounts for more than 70 per cent of the country's population — Fathi says the people see freedoms that exist elsewhere and they want them.

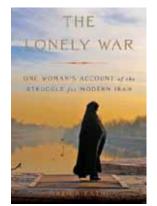
When Iranian pop-singer Morteza Pashaei died of cancer Nov. 14 at the age of 30, thousands of Iranians flooded the streets to mourn for him.

Nazila Fathi contributed

"Women, who are not permitted to sing in public, were singing his songs," Fathi says. "It's a sign that the younger generation is vying for more personal freedom. They're looking for an excuse to show

their solidarity."

It's a battle the Iranian people are still fighting and Fathi's voice is just one of 77 million — albeit a strong one. Her story is worth hearing; she did risk her life to tell it.



Quote

"The younger generation is vying for more personal freedom. They're looking for an excuse to show their solidarity."

Author Nazila Fathi



Canadä

Join Us for a Stimulating Discussion on Ecological Urbanism

Wednesday, December 10, 6 pm to 8:30 pm NCC Headquarters, Capital Urbanism Lab 40 Elgin Street, 5th Floor, Ottawa

The National Capital Commission (NCC), in partnership with the Embassy of France, is pleased to present a stimulating discussion about ecological urbanism. The panel will consist of the following experts:

Nina-Marie ListerRyerson University (Toronto, Canada)Christian DevillersAgence Devillers (Paris, France)

Philippe Clergeau Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle (Paris, France)

Anouk Legendre Architect, XTU Architectes (Paris, France)

The discussion will introduce the concepts of ecological urbanism as a philosophy and theory, as it is known in the Canadian context. Our French guests will then share their knowledge and experience from a theoretical and practical perspective.





Please RSVP to info@ncc-ccn.ca by noon, Tuesday, December 9, 2014. ncc-ccn.gc.ca/calendar 613-239-5000

y @NCC_CCN

MationalCapitalCommission

metr⊕ DISH metronews.ca Thursday, December 4, 2014



Cuddly, ginger and British, Ed Sheeran is the top dog at Spotify. Sorry, Taylor

Who's the undisputed king of online music? Ed Sheeran is.

The cuddly British ginger was the most-streamed artist in 2014, according to Spotify, with a staggering 860 million individual streams of his

And his album, X, was the most-streamed album globally, with 430 million listens.

I guess that month I spent streaming the Flash Gordon soundtrack on repeat didn't make as much of an impact as I'd hoped. And, of course, there's no mention of Spotifyditching Taylor Swift in the report, so maybe Sheeran's win should come with an asterisk.

Now, for some truly terrifying numbers: Spotify's more than 50 million registered users streamed more than seven billion hours of music this year - adding up to about 800,000 years of music and maybe a few annoying audiobook ads.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Gaga isn't Swift's lover, but she's into it if Taylor is



EHRBAR

During a recent visit to Howard Stern's radio show, Lady Gaga set the record straight about her and another pop music titan. Stern pressed Gaga with, "Someone called in and said that you are now a lover of Taylor Swift's, that the two of you are making love to one another.'

That guy, such a way with

words. Anyway, Gaga insists there's nothing of the sort going on - although she'd be totally down if Swift wanted to give it a whirl.

'I don't think she would be into that," Gaga replied, adding later, "If she's into that, she can call me."

In a totally Gaga move, the Bad Romance singer revealed she likes Swift because Swift listens to her music, a piece of info Gaga picked up from a stylist they share. According to Gaga, Swift "was doing a shoot and he was in there styling her ... and he goes, 'Taylor Swift is in here blasting Artpop so loud, and she is dancing and she is posing,' and I said to myself, 'I like this girl.'"



@idinamenzel

I'm in awe of the moms who drop their kids off at school and actually put on a cute outfit. Pjs and biker boots for me.



@ABFalecbaldwin

I want to be ambassador to Spain. I was actually, on a soap opera



@ConanOBrien

As we get closer and closer to the end of this tweet. I think it's important that we lower our



Seems Michael is sweet on a surfing Swede

There's a new target for the jealous ire of all the Michael Fassbender fans out there, and her name is Alicia Vikander. Fassbender and the Swedish actress are reportedly dating after

playing husband and wife in the upcoming film The Life Between Oceans. They've most recently been seen out surfing together in Australia, which I guess constitutes a date. While reps for Fassbender and Vikander declined to comment, there's

always an anonymous source willing to chime in: "Michael and Alicia are casually dating, spending a lot of time together," the source tells E!





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The Daily Dish



COUPLE CAN'T STAY OUT OF THE KITCHEN



In a twist of fate, a local couple can't stop the urge to stay home and cook dinner after switching to new OxiClean™ Dishwasher Detergent Paks. Amy of Grand Prairie told The Daily Dish "I can honestly say WOW." And the switch didn't just impress Amy,

"Even my husband notices the difference!"*

— Amy, Grand Prairie

"even my husband notices the difference!"* after discovering that his tough, baked on messes came out sparkling clean. Seeing the difference in how clean their dishes came out has led to a new sparkle from their dishes, and their meals together.

Mothers agree cleaner dishes save time, and their nails.



Mothers rejoiced today as it was announced that using a combination of OxiClean™ Extreme Power Crystals™ Dishwasher Detergent Paks and OxiClean™ Dishwashing 2-in-1 Booster + Rinse Agent has finally made dishes clean enough to eat off of. "This is a big win for nails everywhere" said one local woman who is no stranger to chipping baked on dirt off of cookware. Manicurists in the area have yet to comment on the matter.

Cleaning is now child's play

After a turn of events, a suburban mom is 4X happier after switching to OxiClean™ Extreme Power Crystals™ Dishwasher Deter-



gent Paks. Seeing how easy and effective they are, without having to pre-wash, has not only cut down chore time and improved dish conditions, but also "allows me to spend more of my time with the kids instead of scrubbing dirty dishes," the mother dished. Since the switch, Noelle is spending less time in the kitchen and more time with her little ones.

All stories depicted within this advertisement are fictional in nature. *Quotes are from real consumer reviews submitted for OxiClean™ Extreme Power Crystals™ Dishwasher Detergent Paks and OxiClean™ Dishwashing 2-in-1 Booster + Rinse Agent on ChickAdvisor.com as of November 21, 2014. Reviewers received free product sample.

Clean the dirtiest dishes with OxiClean™ Dishwasher Products.

95% CHICKS DIG IT[†] ChickAdvisor.com



†Source: Chick Advisor com reviews for OxiClean M Extreme Power Crystals M Dishwasher Detergent Paks. Percent of chicks who "dig it" as of November 21. 2014. Reviewers received free son





The boys of the bash

There's no need for a simple two-button navy blue affair this holiday season. Whether you're picking something new for a party or on the hunt for the perfect present for a sartorially savvy friend, here's our pick of the season's best suiting with a fun, festive edge.

AFP

Auld Lang Syne

This Black Watch tartan tuxedo jacket is perfect for adding a little extra fun to formal occasions. The matching wool trousers (\$265) are by no means a must, but hey, why not? It's the most wonderful time of the year!

Holiday blues

As ever, H&M, the high-street brand, has some fun options. Try this cottonblend blazer in an Oxford weave for an elegant light-blue solution to the Christmas party conundrum. Wear it with a thin knit or polo neck for a chic look

Denim tailoring

This washed denim sport coat can be paired with a pair of crisp, white trousers for a very modern take on a classic suit look



Joining fashionable forces

Theory x Mr Porter menswear capsule on sale now

Theory has designed a 17-piece capsule collection for Mr Porter, now available around the world. The clothes range from shirts, jackets and coats to trousers, and also include a couple of suiting options, all in Theory's trademark mix of minimalist designs with modern materials and technical touches.

"The simplistic elegance of this collection perfectly captures the spirit of the Theory esthetic, and their modern approach to design make this a great fit for the Mr Porter customer," outlined Mr Porter's Toby Bateman.

Key pieces include the 4-pocket field jacket in Teflon wool (\$695), seen above. Prices for the collection as a whole range from \$245 for the white or cotton poplin shirts, up to \$1,145 for the leather jacket.

AFP



Mash-up in the making

Smythe and Beaufille to release blazer collaboration

The Canadian design duos behind two notable womens-wear brands are teaming up and fusing their styles in a new collaboration. Smythe co-founders Andrea Lenczner and Christie Smythe have joined with sisters Chloe and Parris Gordon of ready-to-wear and accessory line Beaufille to create a blazer for spring 2015.

For the collaboration, Smythe's classic Smoking Jacket silhouette has been fashioned from jacquard. Fine artist Eve Gordon mother to Chloe and Parris - handpainted the imagery on the garment based on a vintage Chinoiserie brocade. The blazers also showcase a Beaufille custom-designed, dragon-emblazoned brass metal button. "The design community in Toronto is small but connected. Ten years in, it's always inspiring to meet emerging designers who are making their mark," Lenczner and Smythe said in a statement.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Brit

Age: 27

Occupation: Florist & Bartender

What she's wearing

Vintage 1950s Irving Posluns for La France coat, H&M sweater, vintage dress from VV, boots from the Bay and Coach purse.

Her inspiration

"I like to have fun with prints and silhouettes. I wear clothing that is comfortable and uber feminine. My style icons are the Olsen twins and my friends."

THE KIT IS A MULTI-PLATFORM BEAUTY AND FASHION BRAND WHICH INCLUDES AN INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE AND DYNAMIC APP, A WESSITE, KIT CHAT – AN ENEWSLETTER PROGRAM – AND A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER SECTION. TOO!



Many brides saying 'yes' to a shorter dress

Style. From couture to affordable, more brides getting hitched in cropped gowns

Helen Bradley isn't one of those women who fantasized about her wedding as a girl, so when the time came to tie the knot on the 10th tee of a golf course, she wanted to be relaxed, comfortable and economical.

A short gown was just right for her September nuptials, said the 27-year-old bank worker in Madison, Wis.

"I had tried on a few long dresses and none of them felt like me. My mom picked out the short dress from a sale rack and it's rare that I would like anything that my mom picks out," she said with a laugh.

Once the domain of older or remarrying brides, short gowns are enjoying a little more of the love, from luxury brands like Monique Lhuillier, Oscar de la Renta and Marchesa to more affordable offerings at David's Bridal.

The short looks aren't just

stand-in dresses originally intended for bridesmaids or cocktail parties. Designers are offering a greater range of shorter styles as more brides break from tradition and personalize their weddings.

"A lot of people are doing more intimate settings, so a shorter dress just feels more appropriate. If they do the big wedding, some change into a shorter dress so they can dance and have a good time," Lhuillier said.

Exactly how short is up to the bride. There are minis, high-low hemlines (high in the front and lower in the back), knee lengths, tea lengths below the knee and so-called "transformers," where a long train or sheer skirt detaches to show off a short dress underneath.

Designer Zac Posen put his own sister in one of the convertibles — in red — for her 2004 wedding. "Her huge train came off to become a mini and she took it off to Judy Garland's Zing! Went the Strings of My Heart," he said. "It covered the grandeur of the ceremony and the fun of the party."

Long gowns remain the

clear majority of the \$2.6 billion-a-year bridal gown market, noted Darcy Miller, editorial director for Martha Stewart's bridal site, Marthastewartweddings.com.

But "more and more brides seem to be seeking no-fuss, lightweight and easier silhouettes," she said. Some "want a dress they can run on the beach in or travel with to their destination wedding."

At David's Bridal, 26 of the 75 gowns launched for spring 2015 are short, said Anne Acierno, executive vice-president for design, merchandising and product development.

Posen creates luxury short looks but also includes a few in his Truly Zac Posen collection at David's Bridal.

Among high-profile brides to go short recently were fashion 'it' girl Olivia Palermo and actress Cheryl Hines, who married Robert F. Kennedy Jr. last August in a strapless, white, tea-length creation.

Vera Wang makes short gowns too, in a range of pricepoints that include her White collection for David's Bridal.

"I think you should wear

Ready to rock

"If they do the big wedding, some change into a shorter dress so they can dance and have a good time."

Monique Lhuillier, bridal wear designer

what you feel most beautiful and most comfortable in, and also what is most you, most individual," Wang said.

Shorter dresses can be less expensive — a huge factor for Bradley at her country club wedding before 125 guests.

Her dress cost \$400. She spent another \$100 on a chunky glass statement neck-lace with matching earrings, and \$99 for a pair of 4-inch Calvin Klein heels in dusty gold with a T-strap and side buckle.

"I'm an accessory person, so I knew when I saw the dress it was a blank canvas," Bradley said. "I could go out and pick the perfect necklace and the perfect shoes and you could see them."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A model wears the Arielle, and Ostrich feather mini with peek-a-boo crystal beading dress by Rivini by Rita Vinieris. RIVINI BY RITA VINIERIS / THE ASSOCIATED

Poncho perfection

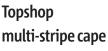
The icy temps make it impossible to get out of bed. Now you can literally wear a blanket around all day thanks to this season's poncho trend.

AFF



H&M knit poncho

A camel-coloured poncho like this one is perfect for staying cozy in the office. \$35.95, HM.com



Add some boho into your wardrobe with a striped poncho.





Zara Two-tone poncho

So easy, so elegant, and most importantly, so warm. \$59.90, Zara.com



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Rugged gifts for lumbersexuals

Whether your lumberjack sleeps in a studio apartment or a log cabin, any plaid-clad beardyman will appreciate gifts that add a bit of retro style to his space this Christmas



CENTRE

Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca



The cords are stacked

Fill his sofa with pillows that give the look of a well-stocked log pile. Wood Stump Velvet Cushions, \$20, Simons.ca.

Patch the woo

What happens to a lumberjack's jeans once they're worn out? Handmade Denim Patch Rug (5'x7'), \$280, eCarpetGallery.com.





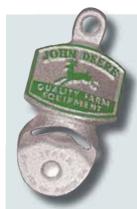
The scent of whiskers

Tell him to keep the beard while bringing back memories of the barber shop. Bromley Barber Shop Vanilla Shaving Cream Candle, from \$10. Homesense.ca



Create a dense, soft foam to top his favourite craft beer. Norm Architects MENU Beer Foamer, \$33, TheBay.com.





Ready to crack open a brew

The perfect stocking stuffer for the hip beer connoisseur. John Deere Bottle Opener, \$30, JohnDeere.ca.



Festive cocktail party tips



Style gurus Steven Sabados and Chris Hyndman know hosting a cocktail party is a fabulous way to celebrate the holiday season. But without a proper plan in place, your festive affair could be forever remembered as an epic fail. They asked their resident entertaining expert Cocktail Deeva to share her tips on how to throw the ultimate cocktail soiree that will not only impress your guests, but also help you keep your cool. Steven and Chris' holiday specials air from Dec. 15-19 at 2 p.m. EST on CBC Television.

ALL TEXT PROVIDED BY STEVEN AND CHRIS. PHOTOS BY ALEXIS GLINERT.

Invitations come first

Remember, your party is only as good as your guest list, so ask yourself: • Who is coming to the party? Friends? Family? Work colleagues? Will there be kids? • If it's a work event, keep things professional and avoid mixing groups. Be clear about what kind of party it is. • Sending a paper invitation is a classy way of inviting small groups. For larger groups, send an online invitation. It's fast and effective.

Timing and food are crucial

If your party starts between 6:30 and 7:30 p.m., you better be feeding your guests more than a shrimp ring! But if things get underway at 8:30 p.m. or later, serving cocktails and hors d'oeuvres is acceptable.

If you have a limited amount of finger food, arrange the items on a tray and pass it around the room. That'll ensure your Uncle Bob takes one item instead of six, as it's harder for people to pig out when someone is looking at you.

If you're going buffet style, place food in different sections of the house to keep people moving.



Place a small carton or bin in a visible place so folks have a place to throw their used picks and napkins (people always forget that one).

Make sure to give yourself time to set everything up before the party begins. Get ahead by placing dishes out days before and using labels to indicate what's going where.

Holiday Fizz Cocktail

Step 1: Make dark lemonade

Ingredients:

- 2/3 cup water
- Zest and juice of 2 lemons
- 1/4 rubbed sage
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmea
- 1/4 teaspoon n2 cloves
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon Kitchen Bouquet
- Carbonated water

Combine water, lemon zest, nutmeg, cloves, sage and sugar. Continually stir and boil for about a minute until the sugar is dissolved.

Remove from heat and stir in the lemon juice and Kitchen Bouquet. Let cool, then strain.

Add roughly 1/3 cup of this syrup to 1 cup of carbonated water or combine to suit your taste. If kept



in the refrigerator, dark lemonade can last up to 3 weeks.

Step 2: Add the booze!

- 2 ounces dark lemonade
- 2 ounces gin
- 1 ounce soda
- Garnish with rosemary sprigs

Set the mood

Entertaining 101: Turn off those ugly lights! Strong, overhead lighting can create unflattering shadows on people's faces. Dim your lights, if you can, or use candles to make your guests glow. • Curate a music playlist that keeps the party going. Don't just plug in your personal iPod, hit shuffle and hope for the best. There's something about going from Beyoncé to Bob Dylan that doesn't feel right. • Also be mindful of what music you're playing when you want people to leave — opt for slow jams when it's time to say goodnight. • If you want to go the extra mile, load your playlist onto inexpensive USB sticks and hand them out to guests before they leave. People will love the take-home gift!

Squash moves past side dish duties

Swedish Meatballs with Squash & Mushroom Stroganoff. This hearty meal will warm vou up on cold nights and can be served over a few different bases

"Chef Alexandra Feswick of Toronto's Drake Hotel shared this recipe with us after we tried her version at Terroir, Canada's largest annual food symposium," write Rob Firing, Ivy Knight and Kerry Knight in their book The Everyday Squash Cook.

"Tender meatballs, sweet squash and earthy mush-rooms coated in a rich sauce make for a hearty and warming meal on a chilly evening. Her secret? A pinch of cardamom. It sounds crazy but just give it a try.

"Serve over brown rice or egg noodles, garnished with a little chopped parsley."

1. In a bowl, combine the beef and pork and season

- 1/2 lb medium ground beef
- 1/2 lb medium ground pork
- Kosher salt and fresh cracked black pepper
- 1/2 onion, chopped
- 2 large button or cremini mush-
- rooms, chopped
- 2 cups peeled chopped butternut
- 2 tbsp butter
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 1 can (14 oz) chicken stock
- 1/2 cup whipping (35%) cream
- 1/2 cup sour cream • Pinch of ground cardamom
- 1 tsp soy sauce
- 1/4 tsp ground allspice • Chopped fresh parsley, garnish

with salt and pepper to taste. Using the palm of your hands, form meatballs (we make ours golf ball-size).

2. In a large, oiled saucepan over medium heat, cook the meatballs in batches until browned all over. Transfer the cooked meatballs to a

3. Drain all but 1 tablespoon fat from the pan. Saute the onion until softened, about 1 1/2 minutes. Add the mushrooms and squash and stir to combine. Stir in the butter and flour. Cook, stirring constantly, for 1 to 2 minutes, until the flour darkens. Stir

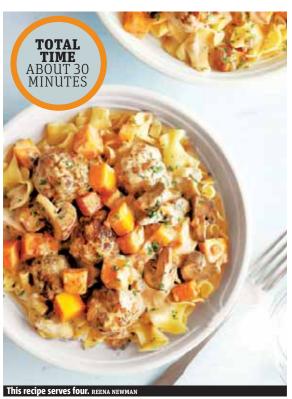
in the chicken stock, then the cream and sour cream. Add the cardamom, soy sauce and allspice and stir well. Taste and adjust the seasoning with salt and pepper, if needed. Return the cooked meatballs to the pan, gently stir to combine and cook for about 5 minutes, until the squash is cooked through. If the mixture is too thick, add a splash of water or milk. Serve immediately, sprinkled with chopped parsley, if desired. RECIPES FROM THE EVERYDAY SQUASH COOK BY ROB FIRING, IVY KNIGHT & KERRY KNIGHT © 2014. PHO-TOGRAPHY © REENA NEWMAN. PUB-LISHED BY HARPERCOLLINS CANADA. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

Squashin all its glory

THE EVERYDAY SQUASH COOK



Butternut, pumpkin and acorn may be the most popular of squash, but The Everyday Squash Cook introduces us to other varieties. The release by Rob Firing, Ivy Knight and Kerry Knight features more than 100 recipes such as Squash Fried Rice, Fish and Old Bay Squash Chips, Ricotta-Stuffed Zucchini Blossoms and Butternut Cranberry Pudding Cake. METRO



Snack or lunch. Open-faced Pumpkin Banana Sandwiches

"Make these robust openfaced sandwiches on hearty multigrain bread," Rob Firing, Ivy Knight and Kerry Knight in their book The Everday Squash Cook.

"They're a healthy alternative to chocolatehazelnut spread in the mornings and have a sweetness kids like.

This recipe will yield two sandwiches, but feel free to really load up on the ingredients if you so

1. Spread cream cheese over one side of each piece of toast, then spread a layer of pumpkin purée overtop. Top that with a layer of banana. Drizzle with honey and sprinkle with cinnamon, to taste.

Ingredients

- 4 slices multigrain bread,
- 2 tbsp cream cheese
- 2 tbsp canned unsweetened pumpkin purée
- 1 ripe banana, sliced
- 1 tbsp liquid honey
- Ground cinnamon





SPORTS

Alfie, Sens faithful set to say goodbyes

NHL. Senators put aside hurt feelings for former captain's retirement ceremony

On July 5, 2013, Daniel Alfredsson ceased to be the face of the franchise for many Ottawa Senators fans.

On Dec. 4, 2014, his legacy could be restored.

Alfredsson will announce his retirement Thursday in the city he called home for 17 years. The longtime captain will skate in pre-game warmups with the Senators one last time, take a ceremonial faceoff and in the process show that the damaged relationship between him and the organization has been repaired.

"It puts the shadow, whatever you want to call it — we don't need to talk about it anymore, really," Senators defenceman Chris Phillips said. "All the fences have been mended and rightfully so."

Alfredsson, the Senators' captain from 1999 through 2013, stunned the hockey world last year by leaving to sign with the Detroit Red Wings. His departure after

Rare opportunity

"Lots of times once you leave, it's over and done with. So the opportunity of him coming back gives the fans I guess some final closure."

Senators coach Paul MacLean



1,178 games, 426 goals and 682 assists, several playoff runs and a trip to the 2007 Stanley Cup final left raw emotions on both sides.

When back problems prevented the 41-year-old right-winger from playing this season, he told the Red Wings and Senators he was ready to call it a career. It's only fitting that he does it in the nation's capital.

"I'm really happy to see Alfie kind of reconcile with the team," said Dallas Stars centre Jason Spezza, who was Alfredsson's successor as the Senators' captain. "How things

ended and him moving on was, I think, a move that he felt was necessary. I think it was probably the right move for him. But now that it's over and he's decided he's going to hang them up, I think it's good that Ottawa's welcoming him back."

Spezza, who asked for and was granted a trade this past summer, said of Alfredsson's situation that it's "a little bit of water under the bridge and time heals wounds."

Thursday's Welcome Home celebration takes the healing process to another level.

Alfredsson will announce his retirement at Canadian Tire Centre in the morning, then take the ice for warm-ups with the Senators before their game against the New York Islanders. It'll be the last time the No. 11 is worn on a Senators jersey and the last chance for the future Hall of Famer to soak in adulation from the crowd before his number is raised to the rafters.

It's a unique chance for the seminal player in Senators history and the fans to say goodbye to each other.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Death of a legend

The sport of hockey was "elevated forever" by Jean Béliveau's "character, dignity and class," NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said Wednesday after the iconic player's death at the age of 83. Here are just some of the highlights from Béliveau's storied career with the Montreal Canadiens:

Stanley Cups won

17



His name is on the Stanley Cup a record 17 times, having won the mug 10 times as a player and seven as an executive.



Award:

Art Ross Trophy for most points (1956), Hart Trophy as NHL MVP (1956, 1964), Conn Smythe Trophy as playoff MVP (1965).



Points

1,219

When Béliveau retired in 1971, he was the Habs' career leader in points with 1,219. That's 507 goals and 712 assists.

Playoff points

176

He's the NHL's all-time leading playoff scorer with 176 points in 162 games.



MLB. Saunders trade all but ends Cabrera era in T.O.

The Toronto Blue Jays acquired outfielder Michael Saunders from the Seattle Mariners on Wednesday in exchange for left-hander J.A. Happ in a deal that essentially closes the door on the possibility of free agent Melky Cabrera returning to the team.

Saunders, a 28-year-old Victoria native, is expected to be the everyday left-fielder for the Blue Javs.

Happ was uneven over parts of three seasons in Toronto. He was 11-11 in 2014 with a 4.22



ERA over 158 innings.

His departure improves Aaron S a n c h e z 's chances of becoming a starter.

Saunders appeared in 78 games and hit .273 with eight homers and 34 RBIs for Seattle. He's shown potential but has struggled with staying healthy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

In Texas. Howe treated for dehydration: Family

Gordie Howe was hospitalized for dehydration, not another stroke, his family has said in a statement.

The fear was that the 86-year-old had another severe stroke Monday after showing diminished consciousness for more than 30 minutes, the family said.

Howe was transported to University Medical Center, in Lubbock, Texas, where an MRI revealed that he did not have another severe stroke like the one that initially hospitalized



him in late October.

He is being treated for dehydration, and there are other problems with Howe's condition.

ing difficulty eating solid foods at this time, has slurred speech and has been unable to walk for more than three weeks now," the family said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

metronews.ca Thursday, December 4, 2014 **SPORTS**

tors scored 10 points or more in L.A., compensating for the loss of DeMa

n, who scores nearly 20 points a game on average. STEPHEN DUNN/GETTY IMAGE

With DeMar out, there's a lot more We in The North

All for one. All-star's absence makes Raptors share offensive duties

It has been a constant refrain coming from the Raptors since Friday when DeMar DeRozan suffered the first significant injury of his NBA career.

It's all for one, they've said. It has to be a collective effort, they assert.

No one has to try to do too much, they vow.

So far, so good.

It is a small sample size: just two games heading into one late Wednesday night against the Utah Jazz, but the sharing process on offence has worked out just like the Raptors said it needed to.

After all, it is logical that no one player could provide the nearly 20 points a game the allstar DeRozan would put up on an average night.

In a win at Sacramento on

All together now

"We know with him going down, other people have to step up.... I guess our unity, our togetherness, the brotherhood, the family environment ... will just make us stronger." Forward Patrick Patterson

Tuesday, six players scored in double figures in one of the more balanced attacks of the season.

In a loss to the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday, there were five who scored 10 points or more, even if Kyle Lowry took more shots in that game (28) than he has in any other game

he's played for Toronto.
"I still got to go out there and do my job" Lowry said after the Sacramento game. "There might be a little bit more of a scoring load on me, but I still have to do my job."

The Raptors have spent most of the last year extolling their team-oriented existence, how they are a band of brothers more interested in the whole

than any individual accolades.

Now those words are being put to the test; it's easy to speak freely when there's an all-star swingman around to make things easier.

"DeMar going down is definitely a huge loss for us, but we still have key pieces, we still have guys who can play, we have scorers out there," said Patrick Patterson.

Greivis Vasquez, who has moved into the starting lineup in DeRozan's place, harped on the same theme.

"I'll do whatever it takes, so if I have to start or come off the bench, whatever. It's what it takes to win," he said.

There have been blips, however, and they are understand-

Toronto hadn't been defending with the same vigour and success they had this year before DeRozan went down. Losing him — he was turning into one of their best perimeter defenders - won't make matters easier.

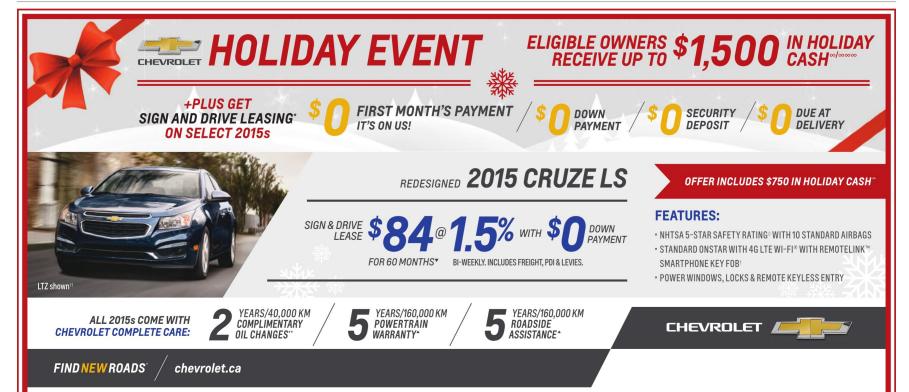
The Kings shot 52 per cent from the field, the Lakers shot 49 per cent, both numbers too high for coach Dwane Casey's liking.

He spoke after Tuesday's game about the need "to get defence back in the game" and that's as much about spreading around the load as scoring is.

"Our defence has to step up, cut the field goal percentage down for us to be successful,'

Said Lowry: "Too many points given up. I think we just have to get back to our principles and helping each other, rotating and running guys off (the three-point line) and doing the job we know we have to do.'

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Chelsea effective without Costa

Premier League.

Backups Drogba and Remy both score in absence of star striker

Didier Drogba and Loic Remy showed Chelsea can cope without injured top scorer Diego Costa on Wednesday, with the backup strikers both scoring as the Premier League leaders swept aside Tottenham 3-0 to extend their unbeaten start to the season.

Although Tottenham threatened early on, with Harry Kane heading against the crossbar, Chelsea took control after a Drogba-to-Eden Hazard one-two created the Belgian midfielder's goal in the 19th minute.

Tottenham gifted Chelsea another goal inside three minutes, with goalkeeper Hugo Lloris' weak clearance allowing Hazard and Oscar to combine to set up Drogba. It was the 36-year-old striker's fifth goal since returning to

On Wednesday

Chelsea

Tottenham

Chelsea this season after two years away.

"It's remarkable ... he is not selfish, not vain — a humble guy who plays and fights for the team," Chelsea manager Jose Mourinho said. "The important thing is he is here and will finish his career with Chelsea. It looks, for me, that he's going to stay doing other things when he finishes his career."

After Drogba was substituted in the second half, replacement Remy exposed the feeble Tottenham defence again in the 73rd, sidefooting in the third.

Fourteen matches into the season, Chelsea stayed six points clear of champion Manchester City, which won 4-1 at Sunderland.

Only in the first 15 minutes did Tottenham ever look like winning at Stamford Bridge for the first time since 1990. Picking up where they left off in Sunday's victory over Everton, Tottenham's players were vibrant and assertive going forward.

Only the woodwork denied Kane after meeting Aaron Lennon's cross with a header. Kane, the 21-yearold striker who wasn't born when Tottenham last won here, also easily went past Gary Cahill but flashed a shot across the face of goal.

Then, as so often against the Premier League powers, Tottenham capitulated.

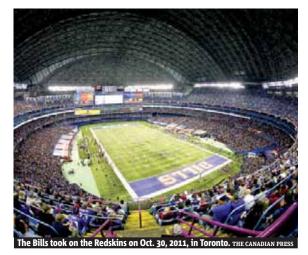
Cesc Fabregas' shot was saved by Lloris, but soon Hazard evaded Lennon and after combining with Drogba, he struck under Lloris at the near post.

"We started the game very bravely, but the first chance they scored from," Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino said. "I'm not happy." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



etro Chelsea's Didier Drogba, right, celebrates with Branislav Ivanovic after scoring a goal against Tottenham Hotspur on Wednesday at Stamford Bridge in London. Drogba also set up another goal in Chelsea's 3-0 win. Scan the image with your Metro News app for a roundup of the rest of the day's Premier League

action. shaun botterill/getty imag



Bills in Toronto series sacked

It started out in 2008 as a dream to bring the NFL to Canada.

But after six years of manufactured hype and lacklustre games, the Buffalo Bills in Toronto series has been blown up for good.

The Bills and Rogers Communications, who were partners, agreed on Wednesday to terminate the four remaining years left on the series.

The NFL team and Rogers had reached another deal in 2013 to extend the series for five more years, but in March, both parties announced the ser-

ies was going on hiatus as they conducted reviews.

Upon hearing the news of its death, fans rejoiced on social media. One person called the series "an abomination" and another tweeted that this was the "best news so far today."

When asked for comment, the CFL's Toronto Argonauts, the Rogers Centre tenants who were always seen as main losers in this arrangement, maintained their position of not commenting.

The 2008 agreement had the Bills playing one "home"

Drinking the Haterade

Bills players hated the series, in which they were 1-5.

 Huge numbers of fans in Western New York boycotted the series, viewing this series as a step to ultimately move the team to Toronto.

game a year in Toronto for five years through to 2012, plus three pre-season games (later reduced to two).

Keith Pelly, president of Rogers Media, said in a statement that "at the end of the day we've concluded that the best thing for fans on both sides of the border is to end the series."

Perhaps the fate of the series was sealed last month when neither the Bills nor the NFL approached the Rogers people about hosting the snowed-out Bills-New York Jets game. Instead, the Bills game was played Monday, Nov. 24, in Detroit.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mixed-gender duets

Synchronized swimming will feature men

Swimming world governing body FINA voted last weekend to introduce mixed-gender duets to synchronized competitions.

The decision, however, didn't come with a timetable for introducing mixed-gender synchronized swimming and synchronized diving at major international championships. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Davis Cup

Canada to play Japan in 1st round

Canada's Davis Cup tennis team will return to Vancouver for its first-round World Group tie against Japan.

The rematch of last year's first-round match, which Japan won 4-1, will take place March 6-8 at the University of British Columbia.

Canada is competing in the elite World Group of the tennis tournament for the fourth straight year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

Browns sticks with Hoyer at QB

Brian Hoyer held off Johnny Manziel again. The Browns are still his team.

Cleveland's struggling veteran quarterback kept his job and will start Sunday against Indianapolis after coach Mike Pettine decided he would be a better choice to lead the Browns down the stretch than Manziel, the super-hyped rookie who gave the team a spark last week in a loss at Buffalo. The ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

Dickenson to take over for Hufnagel, but not until 2016

John Hufnagel will be back on the sidelines next season as he tries to guide the Calgary Stampeders to a second straight Grey Cup title.

Hufnagel announced Wednesday that he will return as Stampeders head coach for 2015 before handing the job to offensive coordinator Dave Dickenson. THE CANADIAN PRESS



PLAY

16

19

43

61 62

33

39

AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.



→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

↑ Aries

March 21 - April 20

Stay calm when dealing with relationship problems. According to the planets everything will come right in the end so why upset yourself?

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Do you focus on what others expect you to do or what you want to do? Only you can decide but if you try to get the best of both worlds you may end up with neither.

∐ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

There will be opportunities to improve yourself, personally and professionally, over the next few days but there will also be challenges that force you to make far-reaching changes.

9 Cancer

June 22 - July 23

The only thing worse than allowing yourself to be anxious about a money matter is pretending there is nothing wrong at all. A sensible balance is needed to find a solution.

Ω Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

You can perform an important service for a colleague today,

a service that will put them in your debt. It's nice to know you can call on a favour in return.

W Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23 You must control any tendency you may have to go to

extremes, especially when

involved in demanding physical

and mental activities. Balance.

📤 Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

If you hope for the best today, you will get it. What you need to realize is that you always attract into your life the kind of luck you think you deserve.

M Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You may be in a serious frame of mind but not everyone shares your solemn outlook. Have you considered the possibility that they've got it right and you've got it wrong?

プ Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Today's Sun-Uranus link means there are major changes on the way, changes that will benefit you in so many ways. If there is a creative project you have been toying with now is the time to get serious about it.

6 Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You are in one of your rare extravagant moods and are determined to indulge. A few days from now you may regret spending so much on so little, but for now you don't care.

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

What seems a major issue to some is no more than a sideshow to you. You're in one of those moods when you can't take anything too seriously.

H Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20

What occurs over the next 24 hours will remind you not all things in life are as predictable as you might like them to be.

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

29 30

48

14

17

20

28

39

64

68

Across

- 1. Finely chop 6. Britney Spears, Princess
- 11. Radio types, e.g. 14. Mid-'90s sitcom,
- Own": 2 wds. 15. Airport arrival
- 16. Scoundrel 17. End a relationship:
- 3 wds. 19. Sash sort
- 20. Start to 'sack' 21. 'South' suffix
- 22. This battle is on!:
- 2 wds.
- 24. Tavern drink 26. Actor Gabe
- 28. Admiral in Antony
- and Cleopatra 32. Directs
- 34. Jean __ (Quebec
- pharmacy chain) 35. "The Godfather"
- (1972) role 37. 'Rem' ender (TV
- clicker) 39. Affixed, abbrevi-
- ated 40. Trailblazer
- 43. Feminine side
- 44. Morse Code bit
- 45. 'Trick' suffix 46. Australia's gem-
- stones 48. Dan Aykroyd's
- "Coneheads" (1993) character
- 51. Saskatchewan village; or, singer Aaron 53. Calgary band,
- and the Dark 55. Wilmington's US
- 56. Safe place 58. Fruity drink 60. Chunks
- 64. Tokyo, formerly 65. Historic part of Quebec's largest city:
- 2 wds. 68. Hot Balloon link 69. "__ Gold" (1997)
- mixtures Down 1. Fake
- 2. Aerosmith's "Love

70. Ron Weasley's li'l

71. 'Inc.' cousin

72. Cup: French

73. Haze/pollution

- Elevator" 3. The Big Easy
- 4. Criminal
- quence

- Gow
- 5. Verdi aria: "__ Tu" 6. Alphabetic se-
- 7. Get an 'F'
- 8. Gambling game,
- through the tulips: 2 wds. 10. Mortar and
 - 11. Canadian brand of whisky: 2 wds.

9. How Tiny Tim gets

12. Wawa (SNL character) 13. Mix

- 18. Therm. reading 23. Freelancer's encl. 25. 5th Dimension's
- and Away" ___, __ and ,, 27. Sailor's 'backward'
- 28. Mil. school
- ' ' (Did fine
- 29. ___ '_' (Di on the exam)
- 30. House Prov-
- incial Historic Site (Home of Alberta's
- first Premier) 31. "___ sante!"
 (To your health!, in
- French)
- 33. Tranquil 36. Dvorak's "Sym-
- phony No. 9 ____ Minor"
- 38. Massachusetts' motto starter
- 41. Ottawa-born
- country singer Kira 42. Amble
- 47. "Scott vs. the World" starring actor
- Michael Cera
- 49. Bucharest money
- 50. Certain canoe
- 52. Biblical garden 54. Titles
- 56. Authentic
- 57. Revise 59. Pharmacy quantity
- 61. Vintner's prefix
- 62. Loud sound
- 63. Singer Mr. Stone's 66. Cap-__-Rosiers
- (Village in Quebec, home of Canada's tall-
- est lighthouse) 67. "30 Rock" sketch, with Tracy ___ Jordan'

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

_								
9	3	4	6	2	5	1	7	8
6	7	5	3	8	1	4	9	2
1	8	2	7	4	9	5	3	6
8	5	3	4	9	2	7	6	1
4	9	7	1	6	8	3	2	5
2	6	1	5	3	7	9	8	4
7	1	8	9	5	6	2	4	3
3	2	9	8	1	4	6	5	7
5	4	6	2	7	3	8	1	q

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

15

31

36

58

66

27

32

51

42

67

70

18

25

40 41

50

69

72

sister

9	3	4	6	2	5	1	7	8
6	7	5	3	8	1	4	9	2
1	8	2	7	4	9	5	3	6
8	5	3	4	9	2	7	6	1
4	9	7	1	6	8	3	2	5
2	6	1	5	3	7	9	8	4
7	1	8	9	5	6	2	4	3
3	2	9	8	1	4	6	5	7
5	4	6	2	7	3	8	1	9

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